Closure of Bailadeela Iron-Ore Project in Chhattisgarh

† 3777. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bailadeela Iron-ore Project in Chhattisgarh, which is one of the few selected iron ore mines of the World, is on the verge of closure due to piling up of lakhs of tonnes of iron and slime;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 32 villages under the project area have been badly affected from water pollution due to piling up of lakhs of tonnes of Slime;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action Government have taken in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Losses in RSP

3778. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Rourkela Steel Plant has been making loss for the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to contain the loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The financial performance of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) for the last three years is as follows:

(Rs. in Crore)

Items	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
Gross Margin	5	—33	281
Interest	514	405	444
Cash Profit	—509	—438	—163
Depreciation	256	265	282
Net Profit	—765	—704	—445

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.